

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1634

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, TSPA

SUBJ: BRITISH PROPOSAL FOR WESTERN CONSULTATIONS ON DIRECT
TELEVISION BROADCAST SATELLITE ISSUES

REF: USUN 1608

1. STOWE, SCHAEFER AND REIS MET WITH DALTON AND FIFOOT AT
UKUN 24 MAY ON BRITISH AIDE-MEMOIRE REPORTED REFTEL. DALTON
EXPLAINED HMG'S PURPOSE IS TO BUILD WESTERN SOLIDARITY ON
DIRECT TELEVISION BROADCAST SATELLITE ISSUES IN LIGHT OF THE
DISCUSSIONS AT THE OUTER SPACE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE AND THE
SUBCOMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION THAT THE PARENT OUTER SPACE
COMMITTEE SHOULD WORK FURTHER ON DBS GUIDELINES AT THE
LATTER'S VIENNA SESSION 20 JUNE - 1 JULY. DALTON SAID
EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY DISCUSSIONS IN APRIL HAD BEEN INCON-
CLUSIVE LARGELY BECAUSE PARTICIPANTS HAD NOT BEEN FAMILIAR
WITH LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS. LONDON HAS BEEN
CONCERNED THAT, ABSENT COORDINATION, WEO'S COULD BE
PICKET OFF ONE BY ONE BY PRIOR CONSENT ADHERENTS, AND HAS
THUS PROPOSED THAT THE 11 WEO MEMBERS OF THE OUTER SPACE
COMMITTEE SHOULD MEET ON DBS IN LONDON ON 8 JUNE . IDEALLY,
IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE LONDON PARTICIPANTS TO AGREE
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ON A COMMON TEXT ON CONSULTATION AND RELATED ISSUES.
STOWE COMMENTED THAT IF BRITISH DISCUSSIONS WITH THE
AIDE-MEMOIRE RECIPIENTS REVEAL NO NEED FOR A GROUP
MEETING, THAT WOULD BE FINE SINCE US/UK COORDINATION CAN
BE ACHIEVED THROUGH WASHINGTON AND NYC. HOWEVER, IF OTHERS
DESIRE CONSULTATIONS, WE WOULD BE READY, BARRING UNFORESEEN
CIRCUMSTANCES, TO PARTICIPATE APPROPRIATELY.

2. SCHAEFER ASKED WHETHER IF BRITISH CHAIR GROUP CONSULTATIONS, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE UK TO BEGIN BY REITERATING ITS FORMER POSITION THAT NO PRINCIPLE IN THE CONSENT AREA IS NECESSARY IN VIEW OF THE WARC DECISIONS. DALTON REPLIED THAT CURRENT UK POSITION IS AS STATED IN THE AIDE-MEMOIRE, NAMELY, THAT SUBJECT TO THE FOUR CONDITIONS STATED ABOVE, THE UK IS READY TO WORK FOR AN AGREED SET OF GUIDELINES WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE PREAMBLE AND THE CONSULTATION PRINCIPLE CONTAINED IN THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE'S REPORT, THE BRACKETS BEING DROPPED AND THE LANGUAGE WHICH HAD BEEN BRACKETED BEING RETAINED. DALTON SAID THE WEST SHOULD BE IN A GOOD POSITION IN VIENNA -- AND LATER IN FORESTALLING ANY HOSTILE INITIATIVE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS AUTUMN -- IF WE CAN FIRM UP OUR COMMITMENT AS RECORDED IN THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT TO USE THE ANNEX II TEXT AS A BASIS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.

3. DALTON AND SCHAEFER REITERATED THE VIEW THAT THE FUNDAMENTALS OF THE UK POSITION AND THAT OF THE US ARE THE SAME -- THAT WHAT THE 1977 WARC DID WAS TO ESTABLISH AN EQUITABLE USE OF THE SPECTRUM, AND THAT AGREEMENT BY GOVERNMENTS AT THE WARC TO ALLOW EXCLUSION OF FOREIGN SATELLITE BROADCASTS WHERE THERE IS INTERFERENCE WITH NATIONAL USES DOES NOT PROVIDE A SPRINGBOARD FOR ANY POLITICAL OR IDEOLOGICAL PRINCIPLE THAT CAN BE USED TO CAST DOUBT ON OUR COMMITMENT TO FREE EXCHANGE AND FREE FLOW. STOWE OBSERVED THAT OUR GOAL IN THE TIMEFRAME OF THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE AND THE GA SHOULD BE ADHERENCE TO CONFIDENTIAL

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OUR TRADITIONAL COMMITMENT TO FREE FLOW WHILE ENGAGING IN SUFFICIENTLY SUBSTANTIAL DISCUSSIONS AT VIENNA SO THAT ANY HOSTILE INITIATIVE AT THE GA WOULD BE UNTIMELY AND UNSUCCESSFUL. IT WAS NOTED THAT A HOSTILE INITIATIVE COULD TAKE THE FORM OF A DIRECTION TO INCLUDE A PRIOR CONSENT PRINCIPLE IN THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE'S SET OF GUIDELINES OR TO DIRECT THE DRAFTING OF A TREATY BY THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE OR SOME AD HOC BODY THAT WOULD INCORPORATE PRIOR CONSENT.

4. THE AUSTRIAN UN MISSION MAY BE HOLDING CONSULTATIONS WITH ALL 37 OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN JUNE IN NEW YORK CITY IN ORDER TO AVOID PROCEDURAL DISPUTES AT THE VIENNA SESSION. IF THE LONDON CONSULTATIONS TAKE PLACE ON 8 JUNE, THE AUSTRIAN DISCUSSIONS COULD BE HELD IN NYC THE FOLLOWING WEEK. DALTON SAID AUSTRIA WILL SEEK AGREEMENT THAT A WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE TO DISCUSS DBS ISSUES BE SET UP FOR THE PERIOD OF THE VIENNA SESSION, WHICH SEEMED IN ORDER IN VIEW OF THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE COMMITMENT TO

TRY TO CARRY DBS DISCUSSIONS FURTHER AT VIENNA.

5. CANADA SHOULD BE ADDED TO LIST OF AIDE-MEMOIRE
RECIPIENTS PARA 2 REFTEL.
LEONARD

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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